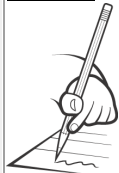


Year 6 Newsletter Autumn Term

Dear Parents, can I first say that I hope you have had a good summer and that the children are excited to start a new year. Welcome to Year 6! This newsletter will share information about the content of our curriculum for the Autumn term as well as details of our new routines. If you have any queries based on the information in the newsletter then please do not hesitate to contact me, either before or after school, or alternatively by email– staff25@croft.staffs.sch.uk.

Literacy



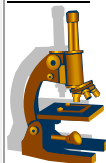
In Literacy this year the children will take part in weekly spelling, handwriting, reading, grammar and punctuation and writing lessons. Each week the children will be given spellings (on a Friday) to practice for the following Friday afternoon test. During spelling lesson we will revise and improve the accuracy of spelling of the Year 5 and 6 statutory words, investigate words with 'ce/se', spell 'cious/tious words and contribute to the children's own word bank of misspelled words. The first two stories that we will be sharing will be a wonderful story called 'I believe in unicorns' by Michael Morpurgo followed by 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll. Through these texts we will be developing our writing skills and deepening our understanding of the stories through reading activities as well. We will develop the children's use of complex sentences using different types of clauses, learn how to make use of more sophisticated punctuation for example colons and semi colons and develop our editing skills to make our writing the best that it can be. In reading lessons, we will focus on inference and reading between the lines of the text, retrieval questions, understanding the writer's choice of language and the impact that this has on the reader as well as how to explain and evidence their answers to comprehension questions. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading book stories and know that the children will love them too!

Mathematics



During Maths lessons this term we will begin with learning about numbers to 10,000,000 by comparing, ordering and rounding them. This place value until will also involve use learning about negative numbers in different contexts. Following this we will begin a four rules unit, developing addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills. For each of these calculation types we will develop both mental written methods through fluency, reasoning and problem-solving tasks. We will also use and apply what we learned in the context of some past SAT style questions to get the children used to the format of these types of questions and challenge their understanding. We will continue to practise or basic skills including times tables which will include TT Rockstars as part of homework.

Science



Our two Science topics for this term are Electricity and Light. In the Electricity will be experimenting with the effect of different components of a circuit, drawing them using symbols and investigating real life circuits for example those in traffic lights. In our Light topic we will develop our understanding of shadows through a range of different games and in experiments, learn about the eye and how we see and, as in our Electricity topic, we will look at how light works in real life situations, for example in periscopes and rainbows.



Blitz, Bombs and Black outs

Based on World War 2, we will learn about the main events so that the children can describe some of them using a variety of different sources. The children will learn about the concept of Propaganda and what impact that the war had on our local area. Through Geography we will use maps, atlases and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe some features of the countries involved in World War 2. We will also learn how to use 6 figure grid references as well. Mrs Stanley will be teaching Art and DT and in these units the children will learn about 'Make, Do and Mend' developing their sewing skills and they will developing their sketching technique through artists such as Hans Liska. They will also be combining paint and collage to create a war time picture.



Rock It

Rock It music lessons will also continue this year on a Tuesday afternoon. The children will work through skills to learn and perform pieces of music as part of their class band using tuned instruments to help them.



Computing:

In ICT this term we will deepen and extend the children's knowledge and understanding of internet safety by considering the risk and benefits of being online, the meaning of a digital footprint and what this tells people about individuals and screen time. The following unit will focus on 'Coding' where the children will use '2Code' in Purple Mash to create programs with objects that carry out different actions and operations for example repeats and timers.



French: The children will learn French, being taught by Mrs Paris-Stickland on a Tuesday. They will have one lesson every two weeks which will revise previous learning and extend to include new vocabulary and understanding. This term they will be focusing on French Phonetics, regular verbs and the theme of healthy living



RE: In RE lessons this term with Mrs Stanley there will be two main focuses. The first will be 'Commitment' and the commitment that believers show to their faiths and the second will be 'Words of Wisdom' whereby children will learn about the words used in different faiths and in their holy books.



PSHE: For the first half term the children will learn about 'Me and My School' whereby the children will recognise the different roles they take on in school and at home, recognise some of their strengths. They will identify challenges and suggest ways to overcome challenges. In 'Me and My World' the children will learn to understand the role of voluntary, community and pressure groups and will see some ways they can take responsibility for a particular activity or action.



PE: This year the children will have their games lessons on a Friday and will cover hockey and dodgeball. The other PE lesson is fitness (linked to fundamental games skills) and this will be taught on a Thursday. For these lessons the children will need a white t-shirt and dark shorts. As the weather starts get colder, for games, the children will need outdoor kit, preferably a track suit, over the top of their white t-shirt, dark shorts and trainers. ALL jewellery, including ear rings, must be taken out before PE as a safety precaution. Children will continue to come into school in their PE kits this year.



Reading: We will endeavour to hear your child read at school at least once a week. As reading is so important for all children, it will be helpful and beneficial if you could continue to hear your child read at home at least three times a week as part of their homework. If your child needs their book changing then please encourage them to put their reading book in the appropriate box in the classroom, where we will endeavour to make the necessary changes.

Homework: The children will be using their homework diaries to record their homework for the week and this will be consolidation of learning from the week. If your child has any problems with their homework please use the homework diary to inform me of this. Maths or Literacy homework will be given on a Friday and will be due in for a Wednesday.

SATS update - The SATS will commence the week beginning Monday 12th May. We will have a parent meeting in the new year to discuss the format and to answer any questions you may have to help support your children.

Finally, can I remind parents about completing forms to give permission for your child to walk home and for them to bring in their phones. If the children would like toast the cost will be £18.75 for the term.

Please feel free to get in contact with any queries, issues or concerns that you have.

Kind regards, Mr Hughes (staff25@croft.staffs.sch.uk)